

FINAL EDITION

The



World. FINAL EDITION

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ENGLAND TO DEFINE HER AIMS IN WAR; CABINET DRAWING UP NOTE TO WILSON

REORGANIZE SERVICE BOARD, SAYS THOMPSON COMMITTEE; HITS RIVERSIDE DRIVE PLAN

Chairman Outlines Report to Legislature After Conference of Members.

"LET PUBLIC WAKE UP."

Evidence of Passing of Large Sum Between Politicians and Robin, Banker-Convict.

Senator George F. Thompson, Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Legislature appointed to investigate the Public Service Commission, met to-day members of his committee in the Biltmore Hotel. They went over certain phases of the voluminous record of the investigation.

Senator Thompson said the committee, in its report, would recommend to the Legislature the complete re-establishment of the Public Service Commission. He said that every public utility should be adequately regulated by the Commission.

The committee's report will include much data in regard to the proposed concession to the New York Central of a complete right of way on Riverside Drive.

Senator Thompson said it is plainly indicated that the Committee on Ports and Terminals of the Board of Estimate will recommend that the railroad be given a right of way along the Drive. He declared it was "about time the public should wake up" to see what they are getting. He said the city officials who are dealing with this matter are possessed of lack of candor.

As regards the report of the committee's investigation, the Senator said it would not be complete by Jan. 1, as expected. The Senator will make no further requests to prolong the life of his committee. If the committee is to continue its investigation there will have to come a request from the Legislature.

Testimony recently taken, according to Senator Thompson, brought out that a man who was nationally known in the recent Presidential campaign had certain dealings with Joseph G. Robin, the banker who served a prison term in connection with his bank's failure, and that at least one note for a large sum passed between them.

Testimony by Robin himself contained in the minutes, explained the Senator, is to the effect that he himself never applied to the Governor of the State for a pardon, although he was pardoned.

Senator Thompson said the committee had not thoroughly investigated all the circumstances in the case.

With Senator Thompson to-day were Senators Robert R. Lawson, James E. Towner and James A. Foley and Assemblymen Aaron A. Feinberg and F. S. Burr.

Assemblyman Burr has been ill since the committee adjourned last August. He underwent a series of operations. For three months he was confined to his bed, but felt strong enough to attend to-day's important session.

Movie Show at the White House To-night.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Movies in the White House is the rather unusual programme for to-night. Col. W. W. Harts, superintendent of the work of beautifying Washington, is going to exhibit to the President and a few special guests how he hopes to do it.

'SNOW' HAS MELTED; ORANGE HAS ONLY HIS SCENT LEFT

Except, of Course, Those Bogus Checks He Spread in the Jersey Town.

One week ago to-day a fur-coated, high-batted, white-spatted individual, who threw off a delicate lilac perfume and who smiled like a dental advertisement, breezed into the Hotel Alford at East Orange, N. J., helped himself to the clerk's outstretched hand, "ho, ho, hoed" at one of the clerk's wheezes, grabbed the pen from the potato and sprayed the following across the register:

"W. Irving Snow, manager French American Perfumery Company."

One second later he was calling the clerk and bellboys by their first names and was being introduced to some of East Orange's first, second and third class citizens. His high hat fascinated all who saw it. It was quite the lofliest and shiniest thing East Orange had ever seen in the way of hats.

In addition to lavish tips he distributed sample bottles of perfume with such prodigality that it will be possible for the rest of the winter to scent several scores East Orangers a great distance. Thursday and Friday he spent in the town's shopping district giving the salesladies a thrill. Saturday morning he formed in line and, marching to the Essex Trust Company, deposited therein a check for \$250, drawn to his order on the Industrial Trust Company of Providence, R. I.

Monday morning he deposited another check for \$250 in the Trust Company. Col. Oscar H. Condit, President of the trust company, wondered why Providence should take chances on losing such an estimable citizen. So he wired the trust company at that place and asked for information. When word came back that "W. Irving Snow" was not in Providence's banking order, Col. Condit, who is also Police Commissioner of East Orange, got busy.

He summoned Chief O'Neill and together they went to the hotel to ask Snow a few questions.

"We'll send a cop up here to watch you," said Chief O'Neill.

Snow's gratitude at this concession almost overwhelmed his callers. They waited until Policeman Gustave Vetter put in an appearance. The moment Col. Condit and Chief O'Neill left the room Snow proposed luncheon.

He stepped into the hall, pulled the door after him and looked it. Knowing that his man was minus hat or overcoat the policeman waited several minutes before it dawned upon him that he was a prisoner.

Some time elapsed before Chief O'Neill arrived and released his comrade. Meantime, W. Irving Snow had melted. Despite the fact he was bareheaded and clad in a light suit no one had seen him. But he has left East Orange. He had left other checks behind him.

BABY LIKE BUNDLE OR CAN SHE RIDE ON PASSENGERS' LIFT?

Solemn Question Court Is Asked to Decide in the Case of Margery Reese.

WAS SENT BACK WAY.

Her Father Insists Apartment House Gives Her at Least Rights of Dogs.

The question as to whether Baby Margery Reese, aged four months, is to be wheeled out of the tradesmen's entrance of the Roger Morris Apartments at No. 400 West One Hundred and Sixtieth Street along with freight, garbage and the servants or whether she is to be trundled out the front door like a regular human being was left with Supreme Court Justice Bijur to-day for final decision.

Albert Reese, father of Margery, who is a lawyer at No. 30 Maiden Lane, argued the case in behalf of his first-born.

At present a temporary injunction restraining the owners of the apartment houses from interfering with Margery's use of the passenger elevators and front entrance is in force. Mr. Reese argued for a continuation of this injunction until a trial can be had. The court reserved decision.

At the outset of the argument Mr. Ely of the firm of Hedges, Ely & Frankel, attorneys for the owners, made no concealment of the fact that his clients intended to enforce the rule that made babies bundles and not human beings.

"We don't want our beautiful foyer all cluttered up with baby carriages, or its marble floor all stained with the wheels of dirty rubber tires," said Mr. Ely holding up a photograph of the marble foyer. The photograph did not show that any damage had been done up to date.

Photograph of Margery showed that she too is beautiful and just as likely to be damaged by the foul air of the freight entrance or contact with pet dogs, as the foyer was in danger of being damaged by the rubber wheels of her little carriage.

"I moved up into that neighborhood," the lawyer-papa continued, "because I wanted my baby to enjoy the fresh air in the many fine parks in the vicinity, which were built just for children. After I had been in the house two weeks I was served with a set of rules that barred Margery from enjoyment of privileges that were accorded dogs of quality. I protested against the rules as arbitrary and utterly wrong, but the hallmen forced my wife to take Margery out the back way."

"Why, we don't permit dogs in the elevators," said Mr. Ely.

"Oh, yes you do, and I can prove it," replied Mr. Reese. "Not only have I seen them, but persons have commented that babies in carriages didn't have the privileges of dogs in arms."

No attempt is being made to run cars to Uniontown.

Reveal weeks ago an effort was made to operate, but the car was attacked and turned back.

WINE MOTHERS AGREE THAT Father John's Medicine is best for their children when they get cold or are run down.—Advt.

BREAK WITH BERLIN FEARED; WILSON MADE PEACE MOVE TO AVOID U-BOAT ISSUE

Threat Contained in the Sussex Note May Have to Be Carried Out if the Effort to Bring About a Conference Fails.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Despite a general feeling of hopelessness among Government heads over prospects for peace, in the light of Germany's latest communication, men closest to President Wilson believed to-day he will strive to the utmost to prevent the situation getting beyond his grasp.

Two reasons, they said, will actuate him—a desire to end the war, and a desire, if possible, to avoid having to put through the threat in the Sussex note to break relations with Germany should that nation overstep her submarine pledges.

Officials made no secret of their pessimism over the probable allied rejection of the German proposal for a round table conference. This was the more emphatic because Germany does not propose now to link the idea of a world peace guaranty with the round table session apparently. The allies want such a theme included. Men in touch with Wilson say the "door is not closed."

While the idea of obtaining peace is uppermost in Administration minds, there is among the inner circle a fear that a break with Germany is inevitable if present peace proposals fail. One of the highest officials said to-day that present plans call for no more note writing to Germany.

If, he added, the Marita, Arabia and other cases develop clear-cut violation of German pledges in the Sussex case, or if Germany starts a new submarine campaign in case peace fails, then a break in relations can be the only answer.

He declared that President Wilson's note and Secretary Lansing's subsequent statement about the "verge of war" were in a measure educational, so that the country would not wonder what it was all about in event matters came up to the breaking point.

Official information has been received here that Sweden has addressed a peace note to the belligerents and sent copies to neutrals urging consideration of terms for peace.

Reports from Rome that Germany had presented to the neutral nations sealed packets containing terms were the subject of much comment. The Rome report said the packets were not to be opened unless Germany's enemies requested terms. In German circles here it was considered more probable that direct information would be conveyed to President Wilson through Ambassador Gerard.

FARM LOAN BOARD PICKS TWELVE BANKS

One Hundred and Forty Cities Which Contested Are Disappointed in the Selection.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Federal Farm Loan Board to-day announced the following cities in which farm loan banks will be located: Springfield, Mass., Baltimore, Md., Columbia, S. C., Louisville, Ky., New Orleans, La., St. Louis, Mo., St. Paul, Minn., Omaha, Neb., Wichita, Kan., Houston, Tex., Berkeley, Cal., and Spokane, Wash.

One hundred and forty contesting cities were disappointed.

SHIP WITH 400 AGROUND; POSITION CALLED HOPELESS

Two Americans Aboard the Sankaku Maru, Reported in Peril Off Chefoo.

TOKIO, Dec. 27.—The steamship Sankaku Maru is aground off Chefoo, with crew and passengers totalling 400.

The position of the vessel to-day was said to be "hopeless."

Two Americans are among the Sankaku's passengers.

STORM DID DAMAGE TO PERSHING'S COMMAND

Wireless Blown Down and 75 Per Cent of Tentage Destroyed—31st Michigan Held Back.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Heavy damage to the equipment of Major Gen. Pershing's command in Mexico was reported to-day in despatches to the War Department telling of the storm which swept his lines Christmas Day. Masts of the wireless stations at Colonia Dublan and El Valle were blown down and field hospital number three was demolished. The commissary storehouse and many other structures were badly damaged, the walls being blown in and roofs carried away by violent winds. At least 75 per cent of the tentage at Colonia Dublan was destroyed and telegraphic communication was interrupted all along the line.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 27.—After all preparations were made to-day for entraining for home, orders were given the Thirty-first Michigan National Guard that its departure be delayed. No reasons were assigned for the change.

Canal Tug Reliance Sinks; Master and Crew Drowned.

PANAMA, Dec. 27.—The canal tug Reliance, formerly the Scully of New York, sank off the Colon breakwater in a heavy sea to-day. The tug's master, Peter Evans of San Francisco, and three negroes were drowned.

R. C. WOOD MUST BE TRIED; SWANN'S PLEA IS REJECTED

Judge Nott Refuses to Dismiss Indictment Against Former Service Commissioner.

DUTY TO THE PUBLIC.

District Attorney's Office Surprised by "Unusual" Ruling of the Court.

Judge Nott to-day denied the request made by District Attorney Swann to dismiss the indictment against Robert Colgate Wood, former Public Service Commissioner, indicted for bribery Jan. 25 last. The Court also refused to discharge the bond of \$5,000 furnished by Wood at the time of his arrest.

The action of Judge Nott created surprise in the District Attorney's office. It has been customary for Judges to accept the recommendation of the District Attorney in such requests. District Attorney Swann will have to place Wood on trial.

Judge Nott recites the facts set forth in the indictment, and says: "The recommendation of the District Attorney is based on two reasons:

"First—That the success of the prosecution depends upon the testimony of Sidney G. Johnson; that Johnson is an unwilling witness; that his testimony is vague, and that by his recent acts and declarations he has manifested his hostility and has refused to discuss the case further.

"Second—That there is a question of fact in the case whether or not Johnson is an accomplice of the defendant, it being evident that if he is an accomplice the necessary corroboration of his testimony is lacking.

"Where an indictment for a felony is returned against a public officer, holding an important position, public policy requires that the case against him be fully tried, unless it is perfectly apparent that under no possible circumstances can the prosecution succeed, especially where it is evident that the trial of the case cannot be a prolonged one, unduly obstructing other public business.

"In this case, while the evidence of Johnson in certain respects is indeterminate, yet, if it is believed by a jury and he is not an accomplice, a prima facie case against the defendant is made out. Very often the fact that a witness is unwilling and is testifying against his inclinations adds strength to his testimony.

"The mere fact that Johnson has refused to discuss the case further or aid in its further prosecution does not prove by any means that he will run the risk of an indictment for perjury by changing the testimony already given by him."

Discussing Judge Nott's action, District Attorney Swann said:

"I hope Judge Nott will try the case. I will ask him to do so. Evidently he does not agree with his associate, Judge Wadhams, who granted the motion to inspect the minutes of the Grand Jury and gave permission that the motion for the dismissal of the indictment be made on the merits of the case. Judge Wadhams publicly said that the indictment should be dismissed. It will be utterly impossible to secure a conviction."

Chesapeake and Ohio R. R. to Give Five Per Cent Advance.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 27.—President Stevens of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, to-day announced that, effective Jan. 1, a five per cent. increase in salary will be paid to each employee serving the company in offices, at stations and in dining and parlor cars whose compensation is not covered by an agreement, who has been in service at least one year and whose salary has not been advanced since Jan. 1, 1915.

CONFERENCE HELD IN LONDON AFTER LLOYD GEORGE TALKS WITH HIGH FRENCH OFFICIALS

Entente Allies to Join in Answering Wilson's Note and German Proposals—Count Reventlow Calls for Reopening Submarine Warfare

GERMAN AGENTS AT HAGUE TO ARRANGE CONFERENCE

LONDON, Dec. 27.—England intends to tell the world exactly what she is fighting for. Her answer to President Wilson's note suggesting that belligerents in the great war define their peace terms will be a clear outline of the objects which Great Britain and her allies hope to attain.

That this sort of a note is now in process of formulation was learned on unquestioned authority by the United Press this afternoon.

Presumably it was this business of drafting the reply which called the ministry into conference at Premier Lloyd George's official residence in Downing Street to-day.

It is known that yesterday Lloyd George conferred at length with Alexander Ribot, Minister of Finance in the French Cabinet, and Albert Thomas, Minister of Munitions and Manufacture, of the Briand Ministry.

This conference had as its subject also the question of a joint—or at least an identical—note from all the allies, not only in answer to President Wilson's peace suggestions, but also in answer to the German note. The outline of the reasons why England and her Allies are fighting will probably not go into minute details, but it will be sufficiently definite on all questions to answer comprehensively the question Wilson asked.

It is not believed in official circles here that there is any possibility of assembling a peace conference, as proposed in the German reply to President Wilson's note, unless Germany is willing to make suggestions in advance regarding her ideas of the terms of peace.

A despatch from The Hague to the Exchange Telegraph Company says German agents have arrived at The Hague to make preliminary arrangements for German delegates to the peace conference suggested in the German reply to President Wilson's note.

REVENTLOW WANTS TO RENEW RUTHLESS RAIDS BY U-BOATS

BERLIN, Dec. 27.—The Berlin press, with the exception of conservative organs, as the Tageblatt, to-day generally support Germany's reply to the American peace note. Count Reventlow also withholds complete approval of the note in his comment. The Tageblatt declares that despite the events of Christmas week, peace seems no nearer.

Reventlow and the Tageblatt both point out that neutral powers were not invited to participate in the peace conferences suggested in the German note.

Count Reventlow declared the only answer Germany could give to Lloyd George is to headlessly and recklessly apply every means of warfare, and he pointed to the value of Germany's submarines in this connection.

"The German reply shows the German offer is sincere," asserted the Lokal Anzeiger.

"The reply is satisfactory," added the Vossische Zeitung.

"The French Senate's exalted fanaticism and conception of military honor menaces the whole of Europe," the Socialist organ Vorwarts declared. "Especially does it menace France with ruin. The French will never be in a position to obtain more favorable peace terms than now."

OFFER INDEPENDENCE HALL FOR PEACE CONFERENCE

Mayor of Philadelphia Says He Will Urge President to Bring Diplomats to Famous Structure.